

Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices

62.4
To Prof. G. B. Brackets, Chief
Washington, D. C.

1902
Read our
TESTIMONIALS.
Think Between the Lines.
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, D. C.

Wallisburg

GRAPE

VINES

NURSERIES

Lackland Ave. and Midland R. R.
ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MO.

FRUIT TREES
AND ALL Nursery Products.

P. O. ADDRESS,

HENRY WALLIS,
Wellston, St. Louis Co., Mo.,

PROPAGATOR OF THE
NEW AND WONDERFUL GRAPE,

“HICKS.”

Ironclad, stood from 28 to 30 degrees below
zero, without injury, in February, 1899.

A
Specialty.

THE GREAT CONCORD OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY.

READ
CAREFULLY.

Description
of the . .

"Trl R. Hicks" Grape.

*The whole history
and record of
the Hicks grape,
- all I could
obtain from
Mrs. R. Berry
now deceased.
H. W. 1903.*



THE NEW, wonderful, black grape, "Hicks," is a chance seedling from California, sent about 20 years ago to the well-

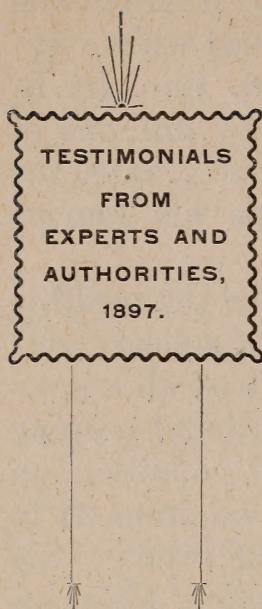
known nurseryman,, Mr. Richard Berry, of St. Louis County, for trial, as a splendid grape, if suitable to the climate and soil of the east. Mr. Berry propagated about a dozen plants of it, and died. His property went into other hands and the grapes were soon forgotten.

Eight years ago I obtained all the wood of these original plants from the owner with privilege to propagate, and this really wonderful new grape has since that time sur-

prised and astonished every one, who saw it grow and tasted its most delicious fruit. I am indebted with everlasting gratitude to my distinguished friend, Rev. Irl R. Hicks, whose name is loved and honored by millions of intelligent people of our great country, that he granted me the privilege to give my grand new grape his famous name.

The "Hicks" grape now has proved to be the healthiest, most prolific grape known, the wood of a clear, yellowish red-brown color, the most productive of all known varieties, ripening a week before the Concord and keeping its fruit eight weeks and longer in perfect condition on the vines; of ironclad hardiness, vines stood from 28 to 30 degrees below zero without the slightest injury; the fruit is of the finest, sweetest flavor, without foxiness, equal to the delicate foreign grapes; bunch and berry large, with finest blue hue; bunches often weighing one pound and from 25 to 30 pounds to the plant. In every good quality it is so superior to the Concord that it will soon take the place of this old veteran and standing on its own merits, will be the "Great Concord" of the Twentieth Century. It is the "Queen of Grapes."

HENRY WALLIS, PROPAGATOR
AND PROPRIETOR.



From Rev. Irl R. Hicks, Editor WORD AND WORKS, 2201 Locust Street, St. Louis, Mo:—Even though some of our name-sakes get to be president, none are destined to greater popularity and wider usefulness than the “Irl R. Hicks” Grape. Our personal friend, Mr. Henry Wallis, could have done us no higher honor than christening this new and wonderful grape with our name. We have seen the vines laden with luscious fruitage in his own vineyard—have some growing in our own garden, have eaten of these most splendid grapes, and most positively do we vouch for his reliability and for every claim Mr. Wallis makes for this grape. Vines and foliage are as beautiful and as thrifty as the fruit is superior and plentiful, and all vineyards should be abundantly stocked with them. Even yards and lawns are rendered beautiful and useful by them.

IRL R. HICKS.

From Prof. J. C. Whitten, Horticulturist, Columbia, Mo.—Official Critic:—The “Hicks” is certainly a fine blue grape; more juicy and of better flavor than the Concord; berries hold on better and the bunches are compact and handsome.

P. S.—My assistant, Mr. Booth, and other officers of the Station have tasted the grapes and all praise them, especially the Hicks.—Very Sincerely Yours, John C. Whitten.

From Hon. Sam. Miller, Horticulturist of the “Rural World,” St. Louis, Mo:—In the “Hicks” you have a real treasure,—you should propagate it, etc.—Yours Truly, Sam. Miller.

From “Rural World,” Sept. 23, 1897:—When we come to the “Hicks” we have another story to tell. A grape the size of Concord in bunch and berry. Slightly oval, dark red, thin skin, sweet melting pulp with a spicy flavor. Seeds small and but few of them. If this is a healthy vine, which the fruit certainly indicates, and is productive, we have in it a most valuable acquisition. Every reading man knows Irl R. Hicks, and will be ready to honor him by giving so excellent a grape his name.—Sam. Miller, Bluffton, Mo.

[Translated.] From Hans Buschbauer, Agl. and Horticulturist Editor “Germania,” Milwaukee, Wis:—I thank you very much for the

basket of your own grapes. The black grape, "Hicks," is of the most excellent flavor and deserves to be extensively planted and cultivated. I wish you success with this noble variety of the precious grapevine.—Respectfully, Hans Buschbauer.

From Mrs. Jessie Whitsitt, "Home" Department WORD AND WORKS:—The grapes you were kind enough to send, reached me in good condition. They are excellent and deserve extensive cultivation. Very grateful indeed, am I to you, for introducing to me the "Irl R. Hicks" grape.—Yours Sincerely, Jessie Whitsitt.

From Prof. J. M. Stedman, Entomologist of the State Experimental Station, Columbia, Mo:—Please receive my thanks for the basket of grapes (Hicks). I sampled them and can truly say, they are the best grapes I ever tasted. I shall be pleased to receive the vines and will give them my best care. With best wishes.—Very Respectfully Yours, J. M. Stedman.

From Mr. C. Young, Florist, 1406 Olive Street, St. Louis.—Mr. H. Wallis, Dear Sir:—The basket of "Hicks" grapes was received yesterday and they were very fine. The bunches were much larger than the Concord, and were entirely free from that foxie flavor usually found in large sized grapes.—Respectfully, C. Young & Sons Co.

[Translated.] From Germania Publishing Co., Geo. Brumder, Editor, Milwaukee, Wis:—Received your basket of most delicious grapes (Hicks) which was a most pleasing treat to our palate. Special thanks from Mr. Brumder, who desires to buy some plants this fall.—With best greetings, Germania Publishing Co.

From F. D. Freeman, Manager of Chase Bros. Piano Co., 321 Wabash Ave., Chicago, Ill.—Mr. Henry Wallis, Dear Sir:—I received the basket of grapes of the "Irl R. Hicks" variety, and I will confess that I have never tasted a finer grape for a native grape. I predict for you a wonderful success in the sale of them, and whenever I can be of any assistance to you in this vicinity for the sale of same, or any recommend that I may be able to give that would be of assistance to you, I am at your command.—Very Truly, F. D. Freeman.

Wellston, Mo., Feb. 1899.

DURING the year 1898 the really wonderful "Hicks" has made its debut before the highest authorities on horticulture and the foremost fruit growers of the land. Wherever it went, the "Hicks" conquered the heart of everyone, who had a chance to see it in its unrivaled beauty and to taste and approve of its unsurpassed highest quality, and all admit that the "Hicks" will conquer the land and is destined to be the grape for the millions for many years to come, as the Concord was for the last half century. The "Hicks" is the new Concord of the twentieth century. The "Hicks" has demonstrated this fact through its real merits alone, and only those who are ignorant of all her good qualities combined, will stubbornly cling to the old Concord as their best grape. Just as well they might cling to the old log-cabin, the old ox-cart, the cradle, and the razor-back hog to honor their daddies of long ago. The Queen of Grapes, "Hicks," is one of that grand trio of black grapes (Campbell's Early, McPike and Hicks) which mark the beginning of a new era and epoch in the viticulture of the land. As a wine-grape it is also unsurpassed, producing a claret of such high quality, superior to any Missouri or California clarets, and fully equal to the fine imported German or French Red Wines, according to many testimonials of the best experts on wine in St. Louis and other cities of the U. S. The originator and introducer of the "Hicks" in his determination to benefit the thousands of fruit growers throughout the land, offers this noblest of new grapes at such a low price, that even those with the most moderate means are enabled to plant it at large to the everlasting benefit of their purses. TRY IT, AND BE CONVINCED. Until the year 1904 it will be sold under seal and contract only, not to propagate therefrom for the sale of plants, but Jan. 1, 1905, it will be given free to the public in general. My sincerest thanks to all who have given the "Hicks" their noble and valuable testimonials.

HENRY WALLIS, Originator and Sole Proprietor.

TESTIMONIALS
ON THE
"HICKS" GRAPE
FROM 1898.

13. Interesting and sampling to determine the quality, compared with the old Concord, - proves that the skins alternately, - proves that the Hicks is entirely free from the foxiness of the Concord.

Description of the plain truth, and nothing more.

H. W. Jan 1903

St. Louis, Mo., Sept. 14, 1898.

Mr. Henry Wallis, Wellston, Mo., Dear Sir:—I thank you for the basket of grape-samples kindly left at the Garden the other day during my absence. Prof. H. C. Irish, my horticultural assistant, reports as follows: The Hicks is certainly a very fine grape; bunches large, well formed and evenly ripened, with medium-sized berries, juicy and of excellent flavor.—Yours Very Sincerely, Wm. Trelease, Director of Missouri Botanical Garden.

Atlantic, Iowa, Sept 12, 1898.

Henry Wallis, Wellston, Mo., Dear Sir:—Accept our thanks for the nice basket of Hicks grapes received today. The Hicks is certainly a grape of high quality, we think better than Concord, and will certainly have a place among the good grapes of this country.—Yours Truly, Silas Wilson Co., per Silas Wilson, Introducers of the "McPike" grape.

Fredonia, N. Y., Sept. 14, 1898.

Henry Wallis, Wellston, Mo., My Dear Sir:—We received the grapes (Hicks) in due time. Your grape has many excellent qualities. We sent you by express a basket of Campbell's Early Grapes.—Yours Truly, George S. Josselyn, Introducer of Campbell's Early Grape.

Nashville, Ill., Jan. 4, 1899.

Henry Wallis, Wellston, Mo., Dear Friend:—My Hicks vines stand rather too close to do their best, still I observed that they were overladen with fruit every year and less liable to rot and disease, than any of the other twenty varieties I have more for pleasure than for profit. Where there is only room on the vine it is full of bunches and they ripen so well and evenly.—Your Friend, Peter Ziegel, Mayor of Nashville, Ill.

N. B. My friend, P. Ziegel received the first vines of the Hicks six years ago for trial (then without a name), as a gift of special friendship.—Hy. Wallis.

St. Louis, Mo., Sept. 28, 1898.

Henry Wallis, Wellston, Mo., Dear Sir:—I thank you for the basket of Hicks and St. Louis grapes, that you were kind enough to leave for me to sample a few days ago. We found the grapes delicious, the Hicks a much sweeter and more delicately flavored grape than the St. Louis. In the absence of tests, side by side, I should hardly venture to make a positive comparison of the Hicks with the Concord type, but they certainly impressed all of us as being as delicious as any fruit of this type that we have eaten. The plants that you were good enough to give us in the spring are reported to have done well and to have made a fair average growth, so far as we can see, neither better nor worse in this respect than others of the Concord type. So far as I could see from an inspection of the foliage, the Hicks is a pure American grape. I mean by that, it has no evidence in either leaf or fruit, so far as I can see, of a crossing with an Old World species. Once more thanking for these plants and samples of fruit, and wishing you success in the propagation of the Hicks, which is certainly a most excellent variety. I am Yours Very Sincerely, Wm. Trelease, Director Missouri Botanical Garden.

N. B. Wellston, Mo., Feb. 1, 1899. The St. Louis grape mentioned above is the other of my two grand seedling grapes of the Concord type, in fact the twin sister of the Hicks in vigor of growth, health, beauty and productiveness, originated in the city of St. Louis and created a sensation for twenty years in the St. Louis

market, ripening about the same time as the Concord; a fine keeper from five to six weeks, when marketed by the former proprietor of this new seedling of the Concord, superior to the parent and equal if not superior to the splendid Worden, at least in health, growth and vigor, producing a fine wine in quality standing between Concord and Norton's Virginia; approaching nearly, but not quite, the wonderful quality of the Hicks, which description is also indorsed by Prof. John C. Whitten, Horticulturist of the Missouri State University, Columbia, Mo., whose testimonial of Sept. 14, 1898, is given as follows: "Your seedlings are a fine looking set. The St. Louis ought to give your Hicks a close race."—John C. Whitten. Plants of the St. Louis are now offered without restriction. Price, each, 50c; ten for \$4.00; per hundred, \$20.00; two years vines.—Henry Wallis, Originator and Sole Proprietor of the Hicks grape.

(From Southwest.) Springfield, Mo., Sept. 20, 1898.

Henry Wallis, of Wellston, St. Louis Co., Mo., has our thanks for a basket of his celebrated Hicks grapes, a variety that is held in great favor by all who have tried it. It is a black grape of excellent flavor, large berry, a good shipper and a prolific bearer. Every vineyard should have the Hicks grape.—G. A. Atwood, Editor and Chairman of Mo. Horticultural Com. at Omaha Exposition, 1898.

Western Fruit Grower, St. Joseph, Mo., Nov. 1898.

At the Indiana State Fair this year the Hicks grape introduced by Henry Wallis, Wellston, Mo., received first premium. At the Omaha Exposition the judges awarded the Hicks grape 100 points. Thus it will be seen the new grape is gaining many honors. During the season we received two baskets of Hicks grapes, and pronounce them first-class in every respect. But even these, Mr. Wallis wrote, were below the average size, the fruit this season not being up to last year's standard.—James M. Irvine, Editor.

Colman's Rural World, Oct. 14, 1897.

From the Veteran Horticulturist of Missouri: "In Campbell's Early, McPike and Hicks, we have three new grapes hard to excel."—Sam. Miller, Bluffton, Mo.

Bluffton, Mo., Oct. 18, 1898.

My Friend Wallis:—Your letter of the 15th Oct. received and you may be sure your Hicks grape winning honors does me good. While I am willing to admit that Campbell's Early is a very good grape, I say that the Hicks is better, not caring who says to the contrary. The vines you so kindly sent me are all growing well, and I gave some grapes to my youngest son, who like myself said it was the best grape he had tasted. Every available eye to spare, my intention is to use as grafts on Henry's stock in the vineyard.—Yours Truly, Sam. Miller, Vice-Pres. Missouri State Horticultural Society.

Clayton, Mo., Oct. 11, 1898.

Mr. Henry Wallis, Wellston, Mo., Dear Sir:—With pleasure I certify that I have sampled the Hicks grape, and find it superior in beauty and quality to any other black grape known to me, and of much finer flavor than the Concord. Some of my young Hicks vines made a growth of eight feet and more during the first season. With all my heart I can recommend it to all progressive fruit-growers as the finest and most profitable grape known to me.—J. Henry Zelch, Collector of Taxes, St. Louis County, Mo.

Missouri Commissioners Trans-Mississippi Exposition.

Committee on Horticulture.

Omaha, Neb. Sept. 18, 1898.

Henry Wallis, Wellston, Mo., Dear Sir:—Glad to hear of your good news on the Hicks. I have had your grapes judged on, we give 100 per cent for size, beauty and quality and on collection also 100 per cent. So you see I am getting your grapes to the front.—Very Truly Yours, A. T. Nelson, Supt. Mo. Exhibit.

P. S. One of the judges was the distinguished horticulturist of the land, Prof. H. E. Van Deman, Ex. U. S. Pomologist.

Omaha, Neb. Aug. 16, 1898.

Henry Wallis, Wellston, Mo., Dear Sir:—The basket of grapes (Hicks, shipped 500 miles) arrived this a. m. in fine condition. I have them all placed on our table and they attract a great deal of attention.—Very Truly Yours, A. T. Nelson, Superintendent Missouri Exhibit.

Colman's Rural World, Sept 22, 1898.

Fruit Display of Missouri at the Omaha Exposition. Standing here and looking over the Missouri fruit, it leads me to exclaim: Grand Missouri, the home of the Big Red Apple! Just look at the record of fruits on our tables; they scored 90, 95 and 100 points. This covers size, beauty and quality. We have now covered our dishes with fancy grapes, among which are a fine lot of fancy seedlings from Henry Wallis, of Wellston, St. Louis Co. These grapes are fine in quality, flavor, size and beauty, and I bespeak for Mr. Wallis great results from his new grapes.—A. Nelson, Horticulturist, Lebanon, Mo., Treas. of Mo. State Hort. Society.

N. B. My sincerest thanks, dear friend Nelson, for your noble, gratuitous recommendation, and the Hicks is surely the noblest of all, justly named the Queen of Grapes.—Henry Wallis, Proprietor of the Hicks.

Springfield, Mo., Nov. 20, 1898.

Dear Friend Wallis—I rejoice with you that you won a Silver Medal at the Omaha Exposition, and I hope that honor will help you to sell many Hicks vines. You deserve to succeed. Success to you.—Sincerely, G. A. Atwood, Chairman of Missouri Horticultural Society.

Irvington, Ind., Sept. 26, 1898.

Henry Wallis, Wellston, Mo., Dear Sir:—Your grapes (Hicks) came to hand in good shape. I entered them at the State Fair for you as the best new variety not before exhibited, and they took First Premium of \$1.50 and blue ribbon, though Judge H. C. Dunlap did not give an official statement as to quality and value of the Hicks. I showed the grapes to a number of people at the Fair, and all considered them of very fine quality.—Respectfully Yours, E. Y. Teas, Nurseryman, Vice-President of Indiana State Horticultural Society.

P. S. Special Testimonial:—I have examined and tasted the Hicks grape, grown by Henry Wallis, of Missouri. I consider the Hicks a grape of unusual merit, being of large, compact cluster of exceptionally fine quality; early, a long keeper, berries hanging well. A valuable market grape.—E. Y. Teas, Nurseryman.

Irvington, Ind., Oct. 12, 1898.

Henry Wallis, Wellston, Mo., Dear Sir:—I very carefully tested the Hicks, you sent to my neighbor, E. Y. Teas, and which he exhibited at our State Fair, and which took first premium as best plate of seedling grapes. It was evident that the premium was merited. The fruit and cluster are very large, good, and if the

vine proves to be hardy, you have, no doubt, "struck it rich."—Very Truly Yours, Sylvester Johnson, Horticulturist, Treas. Indiana State Horticultural Society.

N. B. The Hicks is of ironclad hardiness; stood 28 degrees below zero in my vineyard without the slightest injury, when other hardy varieties suffered considerably.—Hy. Wallis, Proprietor.

Indianapolis, Ind., Aug. 24, 1898.

With pleasure I certify that I have sampled a bunch of the beautiful Hicks grape, presented to me by Henry Wallis, from Wellston, Mo., and find it superior to any of our native black grapes and of the finest quality. It is very large and showy in bunch and berry, entirely without foxiness and in my belief in every respect equal to the delicate foreign grapes.—Emil Walschner, Nurseryman, No. 82-84 N. Penn. St.

Williamsport, Penn., Sept. 14, 1898.

Henry Wallis, Wellston, Mo., Esteemed Sir:—I will state to begin with that your little Hicks vine sent to me was very feverish after its long journey, and the one root was hardly a thing of hope. But I gave it a fair exposure beside a Campbell's Early, and soon it began to grow, and really it has made all the growth and more than one should have expected, in all just twelve feet by measure. But while it has not that heavy, leathery leaf texture common to our native vines and their hybrids, nevertheless has it demonstrated its resistance against the ravages of fungoid and other diseases which have crippled half of my hardy collection of twenty—some select varieties. The Hicks has made its infantile season without a blotch or blemish. It has a most luxuriant, healthy dark green foliage. Its medium jointed wood, peculiar in its reddish hue, is ripened well already, remarkable, considering time and condition when set, and the wood appears hard enough to be ironclad. Up to date this much I can vouch for, that under adverse conditions the behavior of the Hicks grape has scored 100 with a plus. With its attributed high character of fruit, if not a superior shipper (which it really is) it seems destined to become a favorite, family pet. Wishing you great success, I remain sincerely, C. W. Griggs, Horticulturist.

Ascalon, Mo., Jan. 2, 1899.

Mr. Henry Wallis, Wellston, Mo., Dear Sir:—I will say that the Hicks grape will undoubtedly take the place of all other black grapes ripening at that season. The old and reliable Concord is destined to become a back number where the Hicks is known. With common field culture it is hardy, vigorous and productive. I must say I never saw its equal.—Very Truly Yours, Jas. B. Brouster, Fruit Grower, and Judge of St. Louis County Court.

Ascalon P. O., St. Louis Co., Mo., Jan. 2, 1899.

Henry Wallis, Wellston, Mo., Dear Friend:—Having for years watched your noble Hicks and St. Louis grapes, and having them growing and bearing on my fruit farm, I must say we have no other black grape to equal them. They are far superior to any other I know, and have discarded the old Concord entirely. In growth, hardiness, health, vigor and productiveness and highest quality they are unsurpassed by any other black grape, and I earnestly believe the fruit growers of the land should plant them extensively as the most profitable to my knowledge. They could do themselves no greater favor.—Charles Kern, Fruit Grower.

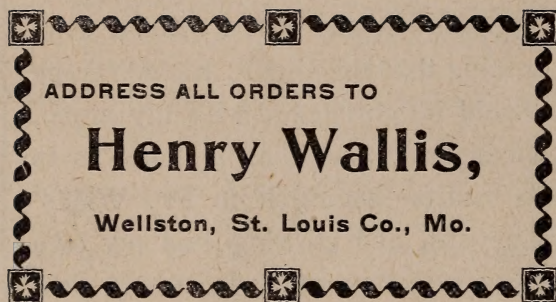
A Card.

I deem it proper, and ask of my friend, Mr. Wallis, the privilege of making a statement here.

I have no financial interest in, or connection with the grape that bears my name, or any other. Before consenting that the "Irl R. Hicks" grape should be christened with my name, I made personal investigations as to its merits—seeing it in Mr. Wallis' vineyard, and growing it on my own grounds—after which I not only gave my full consent, but felt honored in having such a deliciously splendid fruit bear my name. I give my hearty, disinterested testimonial that it is in every way equal, if not superior to all that is said about, or claimed for it.

IRL R. HICKS,

St. Louis. ED. WORD AND WORKS.



ADDRESS ALL ORDERS TO

Henry Wallis,

Wellston, St. Louis Co., Mo.

Word and Works Book Print.

“HICKS” Prices for 1900 and 1901,
2 trial vines by mail, \$1.00

3 to 4 eye Cuttings, per hundred, \$ 10.00

Second-class Vines, “ “ \$ 15.00

One Year, No. 1 Vines, “ “ \$ 20.00

Two Year, No. 1 Vines, “ “ \$ 25.00

TEN 1 Year Vines, \$3.00 2 Year, \$4.00

In 1902 sold to Stark Bros, Louisiana Mar